

Greensburg: One Year Later

On May 4, 2007, an F-5 tornado - the most powerful tornado to hit the U.S. in eight years - devastated the community of Greensburg. When the storm cleared, a 1.7 mile wide path of destruction remained. The tornado had flattened 95 percent of the town's homes, businesses, schools and parks.

In the days and weeks that followed, Greensburg residents were joined by rescue workers and volunteers, television and radio crews, actors and actresses, and even the President of the United States. All came offering hope to the residents that their community would live on.

One year later, the media and President Bush have returned to see the progress the people of Greensburg have made. The community they find is one of hope, progress and determination. It is the result of countless hours of hard work made by the citizens of Greensburg. I have made several trips to Greensburg since the tornado and each time I am amazed to see a vibrant community and to hear the wonderful stories about what has been accomplished. I will continue doing all I can to help the people of Greensburg have a place to call home again.

Greensburg Tornado "By the Numbers";

1.7 - Width, in miles, of the Greensburg Tornado

5 - Rating on Enhanced Fujita Scale of the tornado that destroyed Greensburg

11 - Deaths caused by the May 4, 2007, tornado

21 - Greensburg residents hired by FEMA to work in recovery positions

22 - Distance, in miles, the Greensburg Tornado traveled on the ground

200 - Wind speed, in miles per hour, of the Greensburg Tornado

265 - Total number of low interest home and business loans approved by the Small Business Administration for Kiowa County

936 - Applications for Individual Assistance from residents of Kiowa County

7,604 - Number of volunteers working in Greensburg registered by AmeriCorps

39,172 - Meals served by American Red Cross mobile feeding stations through May

57,786 - Hours of work logged by volunteers

800,000 - Cubic yards of debris removed from Greensburg

\$2.8 million - Amount of disaster assistance approved under the Individuals and Households Program for Kiowa County and Greensburg applicants

\$12.7 million - Amount paid by FEMA for work assigned to other federal agencies to provide specialized work, technical assistance, personnel, etc. to support the response to the Greensburg disaster

\$23.1 million - Amount of funding approved so far under FEMA's Public Assistance program for various projects, including emergency response activities

\$30.7 million - Amount of low interest loans provided by the U.S. Small Business Administration to residents and businesses in Kiowa County

** Statistics provided by FEMA*

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